

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:

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INL hosts U.S.-China workshop on civilian nuclear power

A delegation of 10 high-level Chinese officials is visiting the U.S. Department of Energy's Idaho National Laboratory this week as part of a U.S. - China workshop on civilian nuclear power. The meeting is being held under the auspices of the Peaceful Use for Nuclear Technology agreement between the two countries.

Organizers say the workshop is designed to explore technical areas of mutual interest and to set the framework for a cooperative program addressing identified technical issues.

"The workshop provides a forum for open exchanges between U.S. and Chinese experts, an opportunity to discuss technical topics in more detail and to lay out a roadmap for further collaborative exchanges," said James Lake, INL's associate laboratory director for nuclear programs. Lake will give an overview of the U.S. nuclear energy program.

Chen Hua, director-general, Department of Nuclear Power, China National Nuclear Corporation, will give a presentation on "Chinese Energy Policy: 10-years' perspective on deployment of nuclear power."

Idaho National Laboratory Director John Grossenbacher and DOE Idaho Operations Office Manager Beth Sellers will welcome the group to Idaho. Richard Reister, program director for the DOE Office of International Nuclear Cooperation, will discuss some of the workshop objectives.

While in Idaho, the group will discuss issues relating to the next generation of nuclear plants, probabilistic safety assessments, fuel safety and education-related programs.

The group will tour INL's Advanced Test Reactor and the Materials and Fuels Complex.

Idaho National Laboratory is one of the Department of Energy's 10 multiprogram national laboratories. The laboratory performs work in each of the strategic goal areas of DOE – energy, national security, environment and science. INL is the nation's leading center of nuclear energy research and development. Day-to-day management and operation of the laboratory is the responsibility of Battelle Energy Alliance.

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